

APPENDIX

Clean Copy of the Entire Set of Pending Claims,
Following Response to the Office Action Dated November 18, 2002

29. A method of monitoring a consignment of goods, the method comprising:
 - measuring a parameter of the consignment using a disposable sender device attached to the consignment;
 - transmitting a signal containing data representative of the measured parameter to a database, the database comprising a set-point value associated with the consignment for the measured parameter;
 - comparing the measured parameter with the associated set-point value; and
 - if the measured parameter is not within a range specified, at least in part, by the set-point value, then initiating an intervention.
30. A method of monitoring according to claim 29 wherein the parameter is measured continuously or at predetermined intervals, and
 - wherein the data include time-indicative data associated with the measured parameter.
31. A method of monitoring according to claim 29 wherein the parameter is a temperature of the consignment.
32. A method of monitoring according to claim 29, further comprising:
 - communicating the data to an intermediate sender device provided at a location of the consignment; and
 - transmitting the data from the intermediate sender device to the database.
33. A method of monitoring according to claim 29, further comprising:
 - determining a location of the consignment; and
 - including data representative of the determined location in the data transmitted to the database.
34. A method of monitoring according to claim 29, further comprising:
 - storing the data in a storage means before transmission to the database.
35. A method of monitoring according to claim 34 wherein the storage means is provided in an intermediate sender device.

36. A method of monitoring according to claim 29, further comprising:
 - initializing the database to include consignment data wherein the consignment data include dispatch and product data.
37. A method of monitoring according to claim 29, further comprising:
 - providing secure communication access to the database to enable monitoring by enabled users of data available in the database wherein the secure communication access is provided via an Internet.
38. A system for monitoring a consignment of goods, the system comprising:
 - a sender device attached to the consignment and comprising a measuring device for measuring a parameter of the consignment;
 - a transmitter for transmitting a signal containing data representative of the measured parameter to a database;
 - the database, the database comprising a set-point value associated with the consignment for the measured parameter;
 - a comparator for comparing the measured parameter with the associated set-point value; and
 - an initiator for initiating an intervention if the measured parameter is not within a range specified, at least in part, by the set-point value.
39. A system for monitoring according to claim 38 wherein the parameter is measured continuously or at predetermined intervals, and
 - wherein the data include time-indicative data associated with the measured parameter.
40. A system for monitoring according to claim 38 wherein the parameter is a temperature of the consignment.

41. A system for monitoring according to claim 38 wherein the sender device comprises the transmitter,
wherein the transmitter communicates the data to an intermediate sender device, and
wherein the system further comprises the intermediate sender device, the intermediate sender device comprising a second transmitter for transmitting the data to the database.
42. A system for monitoring according to claim 41, further comprising:
a location finder for determining a location of the consignment, and
wherein the data transmitted to the database comprise data representative of the determined location.
43. A system for monitoring according to claim 42 wherein the location finder comprises a global positioning system.
44. A system for monitoring according to claim 42 wherein the intermediate sender device comprises the location finder.
45. A system for monitoring according to claim 41, further comprising a data store for storing the data before transmission to the database.
46. A system for monitoring according to claim 45 wherein the intermediate sender device comprises the data store.
47. A system for monitoring according to claim 38 wherein the sender device is disposable and battery powered.
48. A system for monitoring according to claim 41 wherein the sender device is disposable and inductively powered from the intermediate sender device.
49. A system for monitoring according to claim 38 wherein the database comprises consignment data, and
wherein the consignment data comprise dispatch and product data.

50. A system for monitoring according to claim 38, further comprising secure communication access to the database to enable monitoring by enabled users of data available in the database wherein the secure communication access is provided via an Internet.
51. A method of monitoring according to claim 29 wherein initiating an intervention comprises recalling the consignment.
52. A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions for performing a method of monitoring a consignment of goods, the method comprising:
 - receiving into a database a signal containing data representative of a measured parameter of the consignment, the database comprising a set-point value associated with the consignment for the measured parameter;
 - comparing the measured parameter with the associated set-point value; and
 - if the measured parameter is not within a range specified, at least in part, by the set-point value, then initiating an intervention.